

# The Belle Glade Herald

Volume 4; Number 19.

Belle Glade, Palm Beach County, Florida, Monday, November 29, 1943

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## Palm Beach One Of Thirty-six Counties In 16 States To Win Army "A" Award

### PROGRAM

E. F. Froelich, Chairman County U. S. D. A. War Board—calls meeting to order and turns over to Sam Chastain, Master of Ceremonies.

Singing of National Anthem, led by Roscoe Braddock with Morrison Field Band, accompanying.

Invocation, Rev. Jay Jameson, Chaplain Everglades Post No. 20 American Legion.

Chairman Chastain announces purpose of meeting introducing, H. G. Clayton, State Chairman U. S. D. A. War Board, who presents Citation of War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, which is received by

L. L. Stuckey, Pioneer Farmer.

Introduction of Official Guests.

Captain Norman Browne, U. S. Army, Subsistence Division, Quartermaster Corps presents Army "A" Flag.

Hoisting of Army "A" Flag.

Introduction by L. L. Stuckey of Governor Spessard L. Holland, who makes official acceptance of Flag for State, County and farm.

National Anthem.

PIONEER FARMERS REPRESENTING COMMUNITIES OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

L. V. Minear \_\_\_\_\_ Jupiter  
E. F. Froelich \_\_\_\_\_ West Palm Beach  
W. J. Adams \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Worth  
John Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ Boynton  
S. E. O'Neal \_\_\_\_\_ Delray  
I. I. Tatom \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Harbor  
M. D. Hardy \_\_\_\_\_ South Bay  
Arthur Wells \_\_\_\_\_ Bean City  
Mrs. Ruth Wedgworth \_\_\_\_\_ Belle Glade  
L. L. Stuckey \_\_\_\_\_ Pahokee  
Sam Chastain \_\_\_\_\_ Canal Point

The County Commission

180 Bushels Corn From Acre In 12 Months 'Aint Hay'

Birds and Bud Worms As Well As Proper Drying Are Important

By Roy A. Bair

One acre of land at the Everglades Experiment Station has produced a measured 180 bushels of corn during the twelve month period ending last August 1. Corn planted September 1 yielded 78 bushels in January. The land was then plowed, disced twice and planted March 1. This planting yielded 102 bushels.

These excellent yields have been obtained with a new variety known as "Big Joe" which was obtained by crossing a Puerto Rican variety "Mayorbella" with Florida 690, and also with white and yellow Tuxpan. Since the Mayorbella variety was created by crossing several of the

highest yielding strains from isolated sections of Puerto Rico, the variety is not constant as to type and color. In general it tends toward a yellowish, hard dent. Considerable confidence is justified in its ability to withstand the weather extremes of this area, since this variety has yielded well in both an extremely wet season, and in one which was very dry. During the spring of 1942, when June rains totaled twenty-four inches, this variety yielded 73 bushels in the following dry fall, 78 bushels.

Although the corn has been planted in the past in rows 30 inches apart in the row, other rates of planting are being investigated. If corn is to be grown on a large scale in the Everglades, plantings will have to be adapted to the machinery now used in the mid-west for planting, cultivating and harvesting.

The yields described above were obtained with 600 pounds of

Continued on page 4

TO THE GOVERNOR AND MRS. HOLLAND AND OTHER VISITORS

Our Communities are glad to have visit this "Great Winter Vegetable Producing Center" and especially "us" on such an occasion.

We feel that the Glades' participation in the production of FOODSTUFFS as a part of Palm Beach County's effort towards the War is signally honored by having the Awards presented in our midst, and we are grateful.

If our hospitality lacks one whit, it will be due to the unusualness of the occasion; We thank you for coming and your participation. Hurry back.

J. K. BAKER, Mayor, Belle Glade  
O. B. McCLEURE, Mayor, Pahokee  
W. M. JEFFRIES, Mayor, South Bay

L. L. Stuckey of Pahokee has been selected by the Committee as a representative pioneer farmer to receive the award on behalf of the County.

In support of this selection the Committee quotes from an article Howard Sharp prepared on the historical facts about the present Canal Point. All of the Bacoms have left this region but the Stuckey families are still here, the oldest pioneers on East Beach.

Continued on page 4



### Water Control Rather Than Drainage Is Problem OF Glades

This article is made of excerpts from a paper by Mr. Bestor before the Florida Soil Science Society. Its purpose is to afford some historical and technical facts about water-control in the Glades. The Editor recommends a careful perusal of Mr. Bestor's paper in full as printed in the current report of the Florida Soil Science Society.

By H. A. Bestor

All advantages in the Everglades today, land use, general activities, inhibition of the territory and, in fact, all investments of capital and effort in South Florida are a direct result of having relieved the Everglades of its original bondage by water. It is easy to visualize what these developments have meant to the State of Florida and to our Nation. The returns in general taxes alone have many times over paid for all conceivable costs of reclamation.

As a matter of fact, when all such economic factors are taken into account, reclamation costs have been ridiculously low and it makes one wonder if the people of Florida fully appreciate the tremendous asset they have in the Everglades.

Present progress is the direct result of activities during the past twenty years. It is a Pioneer project in its infancy and never project in its infancy and subject to mistakes common to all first endeavors. At least, we know that we are facing serious critical situations of soil and water control because we have virtually "overdrained" the Everglades and have created many confusions by indiscriminate developments of land; and that the present handling of reclamation processes is not providing complete or desirable results.

Examining Engineers have commonly agreed that the reclamation of the Everglades involved two major factors: first, that the flood waters of the northern high land watershed

should be controlled through its collection and regulation in Lake Okechobee, as a storage reservoir, with outlet channels to dispose of water to the ocean, so as to prevent water from overflowing into the lower basin area to the south; and secondly, that lands could then be handled by ditching by considering only the precipitations (rainfall) on the land itself.

Early agricultural efforts unsuccessfully attempted to drain lands by gravity toward Arterial Canals, but satisfactory water control requires pumping. Commonly now, through encouragement of Everglades Drainage District, various Sub-Drainage Districts, Unit Areas and owners of individual tracts have diked and ditched land and installed pumping plants to obtain access to and disposal of water in Lake Okechobee or the Arterial Canals of the Everglades.

This pictures the principles and describes the existing general scheme of reclamation. It seems practical, yet emphasizes drainage rather than water control, and lacks completeness of detail.

Reclamation of Unit Areas (Continued on page 3)

### Old Timers Provided Many Exciting Tales

REAL START OF CIVILIZATION CAME FROM GREAT LURE OF LAKE FISHING

By Dick LeFils

Thirty-five years ago white men began winding their way down the Kissimmee river in slow-traveling boats, coming from the lakes around Kissimmee. They were commercial fishermen, hunting new territory in which to drag their seines.

Coming into Lake Okechobee at that time, they found one of the largest bodies of fresh water in the boundaries of the United States, and later found it to be thickly stocked with the finest channel catfish in the country. This proved to be a fisherman's paradise.

Fishsmen, being the closest supply base and having to travel up one of the crookedest rivers in the south, it took several years for the people to start settling around the shores of the lake. This was long before any drainage canals of the Everglades, lying to the south, had been started.

Practically all of the Everglades known to us today were at that time under water. There were only ridges and islands bordering the lake, that stayed above water.

As word got around by the more or less frigate-vine system of communication people started coming on boats down the river and overland, by ox teams, to a place by the name of Tainty at this being the only place near the lake—which at that time consisted of a few Indian shacks.

Several years later the name was changed to Okechobee. There was no railroad running into the town of Tainty at that time. There was boat service that ran to and from Kissimmee, hauling down supplies and carrying back fish, alligator skins and coon hides.

The people that came down into this country at that time didn't settle here with the intentions of farming. They came here to fish, hunt and hide from the law and to make themselves a little "blacker" on the side, not knowing that such black looking soil would raise anything.

Furthermore, they apparently did not care whether they raised anything or not. Their ambition was to just catch enough fish to keep the boat bringing in

a few sacks of sugar and cornmeal to keep up their Christmas spirit.

With all due respects to the old-time settlers, they were a fine bunch of people. They feared no one. If one told you he would do you a favor, he would always do it. If he told you he was going to kill you, he generally kept his word.

In the year of 1907, the state started a drainage project. The Caloosahatchee river was opened up by digging a three-mile canal on the west side of the lake, running into the river which led to the west coast of Florida, at Ft. Myers.

That, giving the lake a natural outlet for its surplus water and a shorter distance to its supply base, the boats started running to Ft. Myers instead of Kissimmee.

More people began coming into the lake area and the fishing industry was getting larger all the while. In fact, it has been said by some of the old timers of this country that the Lake Okechobee cut fishing put Ft. Myers on the map.

The Ft. Lauderdale canal was also started in the year 1907 and opened in the year 1912 thus allowing another drainage canal from the lake and helped drain the Everglades. That allowed another route of transportation.

There is a story that goes along with the first boatload of fish, that went down the Lauderdale canal. The owner was unable to sell them in Lauderdale. Being close to Christmas he went on to Miami, trying to find a market. He was unable to find a market there for his 5,000 pound load. Finally he met a man who was the owner of a joint business of fish and liquor.

The captain of the fishboat traded his fish for liquor. The boat was about to pull away from the wharf when the police force of Miami came down. During their conversation the captain gave the policeman a drink of his cargo and it took the captain two days to get rid of the police.

The police force of Miami at that time consisted of about (Continued on page 3)



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Vast Lake Okechobee Farming Region, through the years has earned an enviable reputation for production of green vegetables,

AND WHEREAS, This particular region, being an integral part of Palm Beach County's agricultural industry, which in recent days has been recognized by the War Food Administration for supreme effort in producing foodstuffs for an America at war,

AND WHEREAS, Palm Beach County produced \$22,000,000 in vegetables from plantings of 84,000 acres during the 1942-43 season, thereby earning the United States Department of Agriculture "A" Award for Agricultural Achievement,

AND WHEREAS, Said award will be presented in special ceremonies at Belle Glade on Monday morning, November 29, 1943, beginning at 10 o'clock in the morning,

NOW THEREFORE, We, the mayors of Pahokee, Belle Glade and South Bay, do declare the hours of 9 a. m. to 1 p. m. on that day as "Palm Beach County Army "A" Award Day," and ask that all business houses close for the ceremony.

DONE AND ORDERED, This 24th Day of November, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Three.

W. M. JEFFRIES, Mayor, South Bay, Fla.  
J. K. BAKER, Mayor, Belle Glade, Fla.  
O. B. McCLEURE, Mayor, Pahokee, Fla.



Governor SPESSARD L. HOLLAND radically changed plans previously made in order to come to Belle Glade to officially accept the Army "A" award for Agriculture Achievement to be given to the County. Mrs. Holland will very likely accompany the Governor here.

Immediately after the Civic Clubs luncheon the Governor will hasten to Winter Haven where he will join an annual hunting party.

# Finishing Beef Cattle Profitable In Glades

By R. W. Kidder  
Twelve years ago the first shipment of Devon cattle arrived at the Everglades Experiment Station. From this, the first successful attempt to keep cattle on the Everglades muck soils, the beef cattle industry of Palm Beach County and the adjoining territory has grown to its present major proportions in which several thousand head are fattened each year.

The possibilities of this region for grass production are unquestioned. With its high annual rainfall, mild climate, fertile soil and sub-tropical location grass production excels that of nearly all other regions of the United States. Yields in terms of animal gains per acre have reached almost to the ton mark. One acre of St. Augustine grass last year produced 1996 pounds of beef with young growing animals receiving one pound of cottonseed meal pellets per day.

Recent results have eliminated some of the hazards of the first few years making the production of cattle more successful than was thought possible at first. It has been found that aluminum when added to the mineral ration of salt mixture has produced almost unbelievable benefits in the health, vigor and growth of the cattle. Although aluminum is the most prevalent element in the earth's crust, there appears to be a deficiency of aluminum in the forages which grow on this muck soil where less than 10 per cent of the dry matter is ash. There are indications that this aluminum deficiency extends into some of the sandy soils of Southern Florida.

All of the pure bred Devon bulls produced in this herd are sold to Florida cattlemen for herd improvement purposes. Several other herds of registered Devons have been established in this state during the past twelve years and still the demand for Devon bulls far exceeds the supply. About 125 bulls have been sold by this Experiment Station.

Since the grasses grow more slowly in winter than in summer, the carrying capacity per acre is much greater during the summer months. However, the cattle make better gains and are in better physical condition during the winter months. For this reason much emphasis has been placed on the production of feeds which will be available during the winter. These include temporary pastures of oats, barley, rye or ryegrass and cold resistant perennial grasses such as Dallis, Vasey, St. Augustine and some of the clovers.

Sugarcane makes an excellent feed for cattle during the winter months but must be cut by hand and put through an ensilage cutter and fed in troughs. It is a low protein feed and must be supplemented with cottonseed meal, another protein supplement for best results. Yields of 40 to 50 tons per acre are expected and some yields up to 70 tons Florida.



TOP—Beef and Dairy Cattle in 1920 at Okeelanta  
MIDDLE—Grade Cattle at Experiment Station  
BOTTOM—Para grass field

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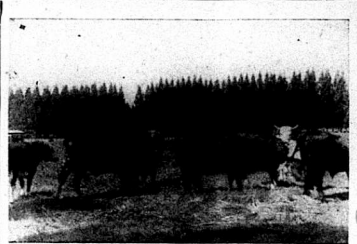
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Glades Raised Registered Devon

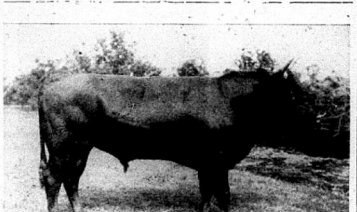


Experiment Station Herd

have been obtained. Since 30 to 40 pounds per day will feed an ordinary cow or steer the number of acres required for a herd of cattle is not large.

Devon cattle have been crossed with Native Florida stock for more than 10 years. The record show that this cross increased the size of the cows from 250 to 350 pounds as well as to improve the beef type. Calves grown in the herd now often reach 500 pounds at 10 months of age and two year old heifers reach 800 to 1000 pounds. Mature Devon cows weigh above 1200 pounds and bulls often exceed 2000 pounds at maturity.

Plans are now under way to expand the program to include a herd of 'purebred' Brahman cattle. Along with the purchased cattle of the two herds, some crossbred Brahman-Devon cattle will be produced. Results obtained elsewhere indicate that these crossbred cattle may be superior to either of their parents in their ability to produce beef economically in Southern Florida.



Glades Raised Registered Devon

## Kok-saghyz or Rubber Plant Has Very High Yield Grown Here

By Roy A. Bair

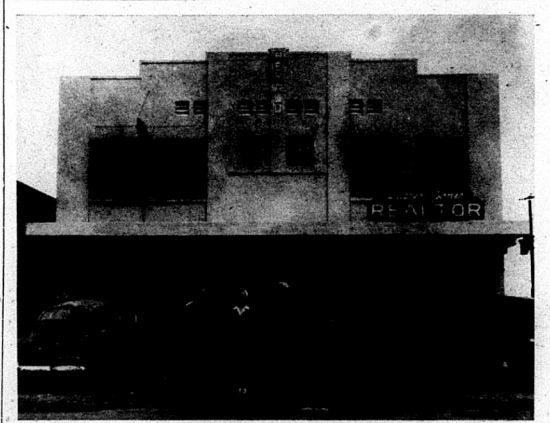
Tests conducted by the Everglades Experiment Station with the Russian dandelion, Kok-saghyz, have shown that this plant will produce more high quality rubber per acre and do it more quickly than any other plant yet tested in this country. Moreover, Kok-saghyz yields more rubber in the Everglades than it does anywhere else in the United States, or even in Russia where a substantial proportion of tire production is from Kok-saghyz rubber.

These facts plus the discovery by the Rubber companies that at least 30 per cent of natural rubber must be incorporated of seed in the precooling plant

with any of the synthetic rubbers now known, in order to obtain a durable tire, have led to more extensive tests this season by the Bureau of Plant Industry and by the Forest Service.

Beginning in the Spring of 1942, an acre of Kok-saghyz was grown at the Experiment Station at Belle Glade. This planting showed that Kok-saghyz was adapted to the sawgrass land, workers, with the cooperation of W. B. Granger and his assistant Cliff Green, established a Kok-saghyz nursery from which various oints in the North were supplied a total of three hundred thousand plants. Because seed of Kok-saghyz must be "vernallized" or stored wet for two weeks at near freezing temperatures before planting, the five acre nursery would not have been possible without the cooperation of Mrs. Ruth Wedgworth who at her packing house.

After the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory, located at Philadelphia, Pa., reported that tests made on several hundred pounds of Kok-saghyz roots from the Everglades Experiment Station revealed more rubber than had been produced in any other region, two Federal Bureaus have located investigators in the region to carry on further research. Mr. G. F. Erambert of the Forest Service has arranged to grow twenty acres of Kok-saghyz on land belonging to E. M. Van Landingham. Mr. Erambert will investigate the possibility of using machinery for large scale production. The Bureau of Plant Industry has arranged a six months leave of absence from the University of Missouri for Doctor J. M. Poehlman, a plant breeder, who will cooperate with the local Experiment Station in the selection of higher yielding plants.



95 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE  
The credit for the mechanical part in issuing a 20 page Special by a Country newspaper goes to the two men above:  
John F. Newton, (left) 74 years of age with 55 years experience in a printing shop; He has been a member of the Typographical Union during the entire time.  
Clarence J. Aspey, 56 years of age, with 40 years experience and as a member of the Union, Foreman of Mechanical end of the shop.  
Mrs. Florence Smith, Office Manager and editor of "Fight and Write."  
The building in the background is the home of THE HERALD.

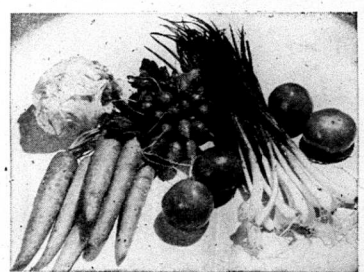
# ★ AN ARMY MARCHES ON ITS BELLY

(Ventre)

..... and Palm Beach County ranks at the top in keeping that belly well filled with fresh vegetables.

First in production of fresh vegetables in the United States is a record of which to be proud. It is a tribute to the hard and unremitting toil, the vision and the refusal to be daunted by obstacles of Palm Beach County's farmers. In wartime this record is of greater importance for food is a vital weapon of war.

In winning the Army "A" Award for Agricultural Achievement



ment, Palm Beach County's producers gain new glory. We're proud to be fellow citizens of these Palm Beach countians . . . the kind of people who are bringing victory to our side in this war.



izens of these Palm Beach countians . . . the kind of people who are bringing victory to our side in this war.

FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

WASTE IN WAR IS A CRIME DON'T WASTE ELECTRICITY JUST BECAUSE IT'S STILL CHEAP



# OLD TIMERS

(Continued from page 1)  
three men though the captain claimed that all his visitors said they were policemen.

Several years later the fishing industry was moved from Ft. Myers to Ft. Lauderdale. Up to that time the fishing was the largest industry in the country.

With the opening of this canal, farmers began coming in and settling around the lake. Farming small patches of different kinds of garden vegetables, mostly for home use, until some of them found out that they could raise most anything here without any fertilizer and with little effort.

However, the farming remained on a very small scale for several years. The land was very crumbly and soft and with nothing to work with except hand hoes and rakes progress was slow. However, with half of the hand hoes of the land flooding and the poor ways of transportation the people kept staying and new families moving in, so the trend began to turn towards farming as well as fishing.

Homemade tractors of all descriptions began to come into existence. More would not work than would. In fact, some days it would have been easier to have pulled the plow by hand rather than to have started one of these homemade tractors.

In the year of 1915, the Florida East Coast railway opened up its road, with service from New Smyrna to Okeechobee, that being the closest railroad to the lake area. A few years later, after the opening of this railroad the shipping point of the fishing industry was moved

to Okeechobee City. The fishing reached its height in that form of fish camps and skin benches along the shores of the Lake.

The fish companies, in turn, built floating houseboats, with living quarters on them, so the fishing crews could go any place around the lake to fish.

The method of fishing changed from the older ways of fishing, such as using 1,200 yards of net, instead of the usual 500 yards. There has been much of fish made with these longer nets that dressed out 30,000 pounds of catfish.

"Dressed out," means skinned and cleaned. A catfish will lose about half its weight in dressing, which will give this catch about 60,000 pounds in the rough. Don't get the impression that all the catches were as good as this one that has been quoted, for there was many a haul made in the lake when not a fish was caught.

There wasn't just a few such fishing rigs, but hundreds of them. In fact, all you could hear in the daytime as well as at night was the roaring of motor boats over all parts of the lake. Most of all the millions of pounds of fish that were caught back in the years when they were plentiful were shipped to St. Louis, Mo.

The fishing industry is nothing compared to its beginning back in 1922 and '23.

There are few of the oldtime fishermen left. Some became farmers but most of them have served their purpose and have passed on to find another fisherman's paradise. Possibly a place where maybe you don't have to pull your nets or bait your hook

to catch a fish.

Farming developed more rapidly after the World War. Men were then being turned out of service. They started coming back and new people were coming in, bringing larger tractors and all kinds of machinery with them.

In the meantime the state dug several more canals which ended in, believing the Everglades had been drained, they found to the contrary drainage was far from perfection.

That situation put an awful hardship on the farmers and caused several communities that had started up in the edge of the Glades to be practically abandoned on account of high flood waters flooding over the ground. With all the hardships and difficulties many people stayed. How they made a living is something hard to explain. Sure thing, few people were bothered with over-weight.

Things finally began to dry up and the people started out farming, along with one of the first sugar mills being built in the Glades.

The Sugar company had about as much trouble as anyone else. To start with, it was too far to haul coal or oil from Okeechobee to the mill. Finally the company decided to fix its boilers with muck. That was not practical because it created lots of smoke but no heat. Then the company ordered in several barges of wood, finally resorting to the manufacture of brown sugar and black-strap molasses which was run off a ways to a huge tank by pipes.

The moonshiners started tapping the molasses tanks at night

and hauling it away as fast as the company could make it. Water came up and drowned out most all the cane and about the only one who profited by that sugar mill was the moonshiner.

The drainage pumps, the sugar company used at that time were wheels made of something similar to a big steamboat wheel. They bailed the water out of the ditches instead of pumping it out.

Up until this time, all the transportation was by freight loads running on the different canals of the Palm Beach, Ft. Lauderdale, Hillsboro, Caloosahatchee river and across the lake to Okeechobee City.

There is many a hand-luck and hardship story that could be told about the freight boating on Lake Okeechobee. There was one told about a boy who worked so hard day and night on one of the boats that he asked the captain if he could trade his bed off for a lantern because he said he never did have a chance to use it.

The building of the Connors highway from West Palm Beach to Okeechobee and the building of the railroad from Okeechobee on down to Belle Glade in the year 1927 and '28 stopped most of the boating thus providing faster transportation into this country with more people coming and more farming being done.

Apparently the country was just getting under way after all the high waters of a few years back and the bad hurricane of 1926.

Most of the 1926 grief was almost forgotten when the '28 hurricane came along and destroyed most everything—tearing up the railroad; washing up the highways and drowning goodness only knows how many hundreds of people.

These days were without a doubt the darkest of all times of this country, but still the people stayed by their homesites and built back stronger than ever.

This country is known to most parts of the states as the Everglades on the shores of Lake Okeechobee and has been made one of the greatest winter-vegetable producing centers of the nation.

It has been made from an overflowed swamp into one of the eight wonders of the world, by building hundreds of miles of levees and canals. Also thousands of miles of lateral ditches have been constructed. It boasts of having one of the largest sugar mills in the union. It has risen from the crude way of farming to the most scientific farming in the world.

Anyone can stand atop the huge rock levee, practically ringing some 1,290 square miles of water and witness one of the most beautiful sunsets that nature creates. It is a sunset that an artist cannot duplicate.

As the sun drops behind the horizon, you can see the game of black base striking, breaking the smooth surface of the crystal-like water with the teal of ducks circling for a landing. In the far distance you can hear the shrill whistle of a train with the roaring of tractors. You know that another fall has come upon us. When the wind blows the dust over the grave of a pioneer who has passed on to a land that he doesn't have to till, let us believe that he has gone to a rest well deserved.

## WATER CONTROL

(Continued from page 1)  
must consider the amount and movement of waters over all land surfaces in their vicinity, in relation to surrounding topography and rainfall. Flood waters are no respecter of quality of land—it rains equally as hard and presents equally difficult problems of flood control on good, bad and indifferent land.

The seven principal Sub-Drainage Districts adjacent to Lake Okeechobee, extending from Moorehaven to Canal Point, are political sub-divisions of the State of Florida, and have been created under General or Special Acts of Legislature as integral units of the Everglades Drainage District. They embrace a reclaimed area of some 95,400 acres, have 19 pumping plants using 36 pumping units, displacing engines totalling 5,000 horse power and having a combined capacity for handling approximately 1,780,000 gallons of water per minute.

In addition to these legally organized Sub-Districts, about 100,000 acres of land in the lake region have been individually diked and ditched. These reclaimed areas have an estimated combined pumping capacity of approximately two million gallons of water per minute.

To design a Plan of Reclamation for Sub-Drainage Districts, an engineer must have an understanding of the climatic and soil characteristics of the territory he has to deal with. Water must be regulated in a scheme of ditches so as to maintain soil moisture with consideration for the agricultural use

of the land. This does not mean that a scheme of reclamation must establish so-called "water tables" in the land for various types of crops. It means that he must set relations of water surface gradients and ground surface elevations which will provide for storage of water in the soil, dependent on precipitation, percolation through the soil, and an average expectation of surface run-off. Such factors have been established in the Lake region by extensive studies of soil characteristics and by examination of records of intensities and duration of rainfall. Studies of run-off were originally commenced in 1926 by using weather observation records of established stations scattered throughout the area—Fort Myers, Arcadia, Jupiter, Moorehaven, Hitta, etc. Interpolation of these records were plotted to determine the expectation of rainfall at intermediate points. We now have numerous recording stations in all the Sub-Districts around the lake which substantiate these original interpolations. Combined with the study of rainfall, we have made observations of soil water movements from ground surface profiles and wells to determine the economic features for practical rates of water control for the flat organic soils of the Everglades require even more detailed attention than does designing a storm water sewer system for a suburban area. Each ditch must receive water from a specific area of land and the accumulation of main outlet with the same care as cutters and catch basins of a street and conduit pipes of proper size dispose of a city's storm water.

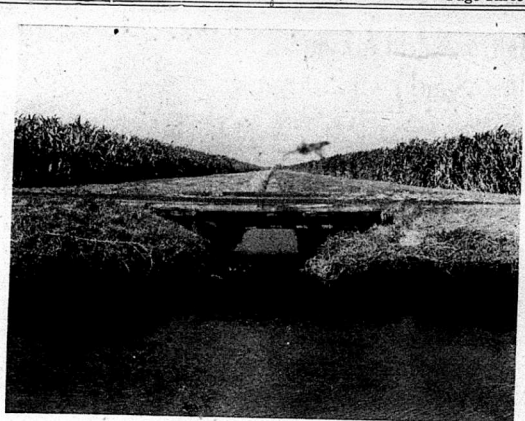
Ditching is not merely a question of making a channel "plenty big". As a matter of fact, a channel which is too large handicaps drainage in the same sense as any depression or pot hole in the farm. This is understood by reflecting that if you double the cross sectional water area of a channel, the rate of movement (velocity) will be half as fast to deliver a specific volume of water.

In general, a Plan of Reclamation for a Sub-District in the Everglades is dependent on two correlated sets of water control facilities, first, a system of embankment (levees) around their unprotected boundaries so as to effectively shut off extraneous waters, and, secondly, a system of collecting canals and laterals regulated by a pumping plant so located as to have an outlet to dispose of excess drainage water and access to supply water into the lands through a facility of Everglades Drainage District.

Such ditching systems have generally been designed for a run-off compatible with the local precipitation on the land so as to afford adequate outlet for all land contiguous to each inlet ditch and so dividing areas of land that no point of drainage will be more than one quarter of a mile from an outlet. The level nature of terrain makes it practical to dig ditches in conformity with legal land lines. This lends itself to convenient division of land and farm units and gives each tract of land a ditch frontage. Canals are generally spaced at two mile intervals and have a maximum water haul of six to eight miles, with perpendicular laterals spaced on half mile apart with a length of one mile.

The detailed water control for the intimate agricultural use of the land involves proper preparation of the land and tilling the soil, together with intelligent spacing and dimensions of surface and sub-soil drains intercepted by field ditches connecting with the facilities of the Sub-District. To obtain proper soil moisture for agricultural use of the Everglades muck lands and to conserve its delicate organic soils, the farmer must manipulate water in coordination with the plans and regulations of the Sub-District. Very often, this requires auxiliary pumping. Water control by the farmer is dependent on the means to meet the specific needs of the plans and management of the Sub-District in the same sense as the Sub-District is dependent on the plans of Everglades Drainage District.

The satisfactory development of the Everglades must be taken into consideration that water effects originate from physical limitations of land and can not be confined to arbitrary boundaries; that emphasis must be placed on benefits of conserving rather than on disposing of water as a common enemy; that water control planning is necessary for the preservation of wild life, the development of a National Park, the conservation of idle lands to control subsidence and prevent burning of muck lands, the utilization of lands for agricultural purposes and for the preservation of municipal water supplies. Taxation



Drainage Ditch emptying into Canal

of lands must be fixed in direct relation to hydrological effects and future land use as some lands are not suitable for agricultural use and will bring no tangible revenue but, even so, have a definite public value.

It is recommended that the Florida Soil Science present the importance of protecting the Everglades from the existing waste of its resources to the Honorable Spessard L. Holland, Governor of Florida, to

the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and to the Board of Commissioners of the Everglades Drainage District requesting that they give consideration to the employment of an outstanding engineer and an commission to investigate the present problems of the Everglades by analyzing the present status of land ownership, all existing reclamation facilities, the relations of Lake Okeechobee control and of the Everglades reclamation and conservation of the soil and water resources of this tract area.



A Buckeye Ditcher widely used in the Glades



Grading and leveling with Tractor Power

The progress and accomplishments of the Glades have been made possible largely by the use of modern machinery, a great deal of which has been improved and perfected by Glades farmers.

Lubrication and fuel are as necessary in the Glades farming operations as a plow and seed.

Our job has been to keep pace with the modern machinery in supplying FUEL and LUBRICANTS.

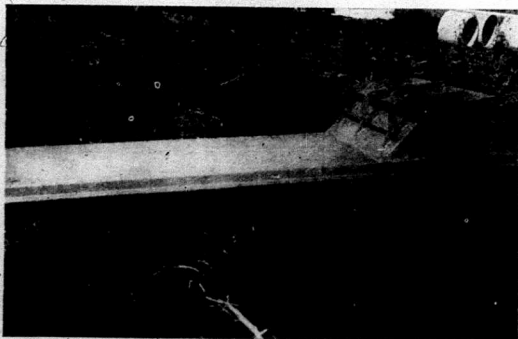
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## Purol Products

J. K. BAKER, Agent

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Pumps for "water control" rather than drainage is the need of the fertile Glades.

The MORGAN PUMP is making "water control" possible on thousands of acres

**F. P. MORGAN**

BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA

# Poultry And Dairying Thrive With Sand Land Farming

**By M. U. "Red" Mounts**  
In discussing the agricultural development of Palm Beach County, the layman is too often inclined to think only of the Everglades section and the remarkable expansion in that section. It is true that the black soil, the economical production and the large shipments from the muck land do engage our interests quickly but the eastern sand land area of the county has also had its development and holds distinct advantages worthy of consideration by all of those interested in farming.

The pioneer farming efforts in our country were of course located along the coast. We are all familiar with the rise and fall of the pioneer pineapple industry, once a major economical factor in our country but now limited to the plantings of O. R. Winchester at Boynton. The oldest farming sections in the county are very likely the fields still in production in Hypoluxo and between Delray Beach and Boca Raton. These rich hammock spots are east of our present Federal Highway and along Lake Worth and the Inland Waterway. These areas still produce excellent crops of peppers, eggplants, lima beans, and squash after over forty years of production.

The major vegetable production area of eastern Palm Beach County is along the Range Line Canal about 12 miles east of the coast extending from the West Palm Beach Canal to the Hillsboro. The vast majority of this land is in the Lake Worth

Drainage District and enjoys the advantage of available water control. In addition, this area has a distinct favorable temperature factor that has been adequately demonstrated during many cold periods and thoroughly substantiated by weather bureau records. We believe we can state without contradiction that in periods of low temperature, the eastern part of Palm Beach County is the warmest spot on the mainland of Florida.

This is relatively new farming section having been developed in the last twelve years. Last season about 10,000 acres were planted to vegetables in the Lake Worth Drainage District and it is expected that this year there will be over 12,000 acres. Crops produced in this area are green beans, lima beans, tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, squash and an occasional small acreage of cucumbers. Most all of this production is marketed at the State Farmers Market in Pompano and at the Boynton Produce Market in Boynton Beach. The area enjoys a reputation for excellent quality products and for reliable profitable production.

The dairy industry of Palm Beach County is largely centered in the sand land section. One of the state's oldest purebred herds and one of the few registered herds in the state is Pennock Plantations at Jupiter. Like the main vegetable area, the largest dairy section is in the Lake Worth Drainage District along the Military Trail from West Palm Beach to Delray Beach. According to the 1940



Temporary installation

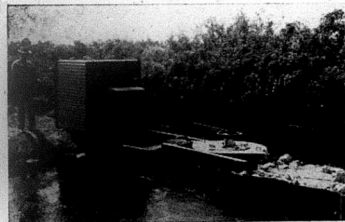
census the dairies of Palm Beach County produce over a half million dollars worth of dairy products. At that time we had approximately 3,500 dairy cows and now the county must have over 4,000 in production. Our dairies are thoroughly inspected for sanitation and the herds are tested regularly. We can depend upon the high quality of our dairy products produced in Palm Beach County. Our herds are mostly high grade Jerseys and Guernseys with a very few Holsteins.

Like all other agricultural enterprises in Palm Beach County the poultry industry has also expanded. Most of our poultry plants are adjacent to urban tourist sections. Feed men and deal-

other less widely known fruits. We save the climate and the soil for the production and fully expect to see in the next ten years a vast increase in these fruits.

A major agricultural enterprise of our county is the production of ornamentals. These nurseries have catered to the Palm Beach trade for years. Our nurseries have shipped asparagus ferns to the north for many years and very recently we have seen a bulb business established in our eastern part of the county. These horticultural specialties are not small part of our farming income and have supported no small proportion of our county for many years.

The sand land area of the county then can be called our



Farm Pump and Power Unit—20,000 gallons per hour capacity

ers estimated that we have over 200,000 laying hens in the county and a large number of broilers produced, but an attempt to estimate this number would be impossible.

Palm Beach County is not a large fruit county. We do produce fruit of excellent quality on the 1,100 acres in production in the county. Our horticulturists are more enthusiastic as the possibilities of seeing expansion in tropical fruits on our sand lands. We anticipate an expansion in mangoes and avocado production with a development of diversified farming section. Farms producing commodities ranging from beef cattle to flowers can be found. Many small land owners live on their small farms in this area and produce their family need from their soil or supplement their urban income with their farm production. Like the Glades area, our sand lands have ample room and opportunity for more development and expansion.



Nature has provided in Palm Beach County, the greatest breeding ground in the country for the Big Mouth Black Bass and other edible fish—the shallow grassy beds generously dotted in Lake Okechobee.

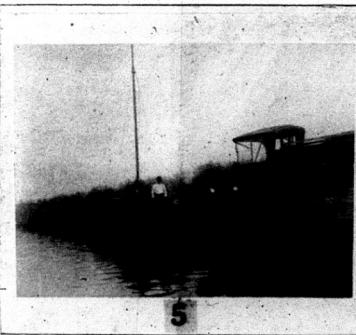
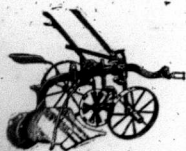
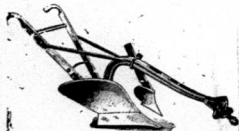
This gift of nature is not rationed, and is a substantial adjunct in the FOOD FOR VICTORY program.

**RUSSELL FISHER**

SOUTH BAY, FLORIDA



Mowing—corresponding to drain tile in other soils—at \$2 per acre



We came to the Glades about the time the first automobile did, in 1922, and have been serving the Glades farmers with seeds, fertilizers, tools and small equipment since that time.

Our far flung organization has enabled us to keep pace with the war tune of activities and help, in our way, in the FOOD FOR VICTORY accomplishments of the county.

**KILGORE'S  
BRED RITE  
SEEDS**

